CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN UPDATE 2009 CALIFORNIA TRIBAL WATER SUMMIT PLANNING TEAM Highlights from Meeting, January 16, 2009, in Sacramento

The second CA Tribal Water Summit Planning Team meeting took place in Sacramento January, 16, 2009. The objectives of the meeting were (1) to finalize the date and location of the Tribal Water Summit, (2) to begin to plan the location and structure of the regional meetings, and (3) to identify partners that can assist in making the 2009 Summit and regional meetings a success.

Dates and Location for the 2009 Tribal Water Summit

The Team decided on the following date and location: Wednesday and Thursday, August 26 and 27, 2009, at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West, in Sacramento.

Regional Tribal Water Plenary Meetings

The Team clarified that the purpose of the Tribal Water Plenary Meetings is to surface regionally specific issues and create a cross exchange of information to educate both tribes and the State, as well as to conduct outreach for the 2009 Summit. The Team identified six regions where they would like to hold meetings. In some cases a specific city was identified. The list includes:

(1) North Coast (4) Tule River-Lake Isabella

(2) Far Northern California-Redding (5) Colorado River-Owens Valley-Bishop

(3) Central California (6) Southern California-Temecula

The Team also sketched out a general timeline for holding the six meetings: one on March 4 (Tule River-Lake Isabella), another later in March, one in early April, one possibly in May, and two in June. Mid-April through May were avoided because Water Plan staff will be tied up with 12 Water Plan Regional Outreach workshops. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy offered to assist with the Colorado River meeting.

The Team agreed that Tribes in each area should help define the meeting agenda, and that Tribal sponsorship to help with these meetings would be essential given the current State budget crisis. The Team identified members who can help with outreach in each area, and needed materials. Draft outreach materials will be reviewed at the next Team meeting on Friday, February 13, 12:30 PM to 4:30 PM, at the Center for Collaborative Policy, 815 S Street, First Floor, in downtown Sacramento.

Partnering to Make the Summit a Success

The Team talked about the potential to partner with the new California Emergency Management Agency. As part of this work the Team identified some general concerns and questions that they would like to know about any potential partner, whether State agencies or Tribal organizations or Tribes. The team acknowledged that partnerships would enhance the scope of the Regional Plenary meetings and Summit as well as offer additional resources and expand stakeholder participation. At the same time, the team wanted to ensure that the work remains focused on water issues vetted by the team.